

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**MAYOR DELLUMS SHOWCASES *GET SCREENED OAKLAND* AT GLOBAL
BUSINESS COALITION ON HIV/AIDS**

Local Initiative May be Used as a National Model

OAKLAND – May 6, 2009 – Mayor Ron Dellums was invited to deliver the inaugural luncheon address today at the first U.S. HIV Impact Initiative meeting of the Global Business Coalition (GBC) on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria in New York at National Basketball Association Headquarters. The GBC has expressed interest in supporting the Mayor’s *Get Screened Oakland* (GSO) initiative, as well as utilizing GSO as a model that can be replicated in other municipalities nationwide.

“*Get Screened Oakland* is one of many extraordinary initiatives that have started in Oakland and this is another opportunity to showcase some of those achievements before a national audience,” said Mayor Dellums. “Through our *Get Screened Oakland* initiative, my office is committed to raising awareness and getting Oakland residents screened for HIV/AIDS. I look forward to working with the Global Business Coalition to expand our local initiative, while implementing the program across the United States.”

Mayor Dellums was joined by Congresswoman Barbara Lee, who also addressed the group. Basketball Commissioner David Sterns saluted Mayor Dellums and affirmed how important strong leadership is in this effort. The commissioner recalled Magic Johnson’s announcement in 1991, which served as a catalyst for the NBA to become educated and involved in this issue.

The GBC brings together all of the leading businesses, multi-national corporations and worldwide media conglomerates. Pharmaceutical companies have joined the corporate and private foundation representatives by attending and supporting today’s invitation-only symposium. The GBC was most recently headed by Ambassador Richard Holbrook. It is the preeminent private sector organization in the global fight to address the world’s most vexing global health issues: HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria.

The GBC has stated that Mayor Dellums is one mayor who really knows this issue from the ground up because of his time served as a congressman and the important work he did before he left office. During his time on Capitol Hill, Mayor Dellums was one of the leaders calling for a global response to the AIDS pandemic.

When Mayor Dellums launched *Get Screened Oakland* in June 2007, Oakland became the first city on the west coast and the second city in the United States to undertake a citywide screening effort. The campaign aims to ensure that all Oakland residents - ages 13 to 64 - are screened for HIV. Since the launch of GSO, thousands of individuals have been screened for HIV. This citywide initiative connects people to care and treatment and has gone a long way in coordinating medical and community resources to sustain an on-going HIV screening program.

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